

October 27, 2021

Chief Justice James W. Hardesty Nevada Supreme Court 201 South Carson Street Carson City, NV 89701-4702 FILED

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CLERK OF SUPPEME COUR

BY

CRIEF DEPUTY CLERK

RE:

**ADKT 0577: MCLE Board Reserve Funds** 

Dear Chief Justice Hardesty:

The Nevada Bar Foundation has had the opportunity to evaluate the proposal submitted by the State Bar of Nevada to use MCLE Board reserve funds and ongoing late fees to fund a program benefitting educational, pipeline and pro bono initiatives. The Foundation supports this proposal and, should the Court release dollars for this granting purpose, we have agreed to take on the laboring oar of grant program administration.

The Nevada Bar Foundation has a record of effectively managing the statewide IOLTA program and distributes grant funding annually to qualified legal aid entities. More than \$19 million in IOLTA grants were made since the Foundation accepted the program in 2014. In recent years, the Foundation also accepted and granted \$3.6 million received from a settlement between the U.S. Department of Justice and Bank of America. These dollars, granted over four-year period, benefitted more than 10,800 individuals and 2,500 small businesses in Nevada.

The Nevada Bar Foundation has the infrastructure and support in place to accept this program. It is our intent that any MCLE Board Reserve grants be made independently of the annual IOLTA grant process.

Should the Court have any questions of the Foundation, I remain available to assist.

Sincerely,

/MWL/

Margaret Wightman Lambrose Nevada Bar Foundation President